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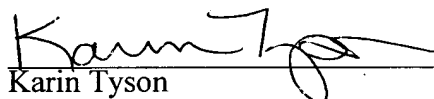
David T. Read
Acting Director Health Assessment Policy Staff, CDER
Food and Drug Administration
1451 Rockville Pike, HFD-7
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Read:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. Re. 34,878. The application was filed on February 14, 2001, under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

The patent claims a product that was subject to regulatory review under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Subject to final review, the subject patent is considered to be eligible for patent term restoration. Thus, a determination by your office of the applicable regulatory review period is necessary. Accordingly, notice and a copy of the application are provided pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-3159 (telephone) or (703)872-9411 (facsimile).


Karin Tyson
Senior Legal Advisor
Office of Patent Legal Administration
Office of the Deputy Commissioner
for Patent Examination Policy

cc: Thomas Hoxie
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp.
Patent and Trademark Dept.
564 Morris Ave.
Summit NJ 07901-1027

Re: Starlix
Docket No. 01E-0367

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